

*Section 5.1***TEXTURE IN MUSIC****Harmonic
analysis
Texture**

Harmonic analysis is the analysis of chords in musical context. Understanding texture makes harmonic analysis much easier. **Texture** is the way **harmonies, melodies, rhythms,** and **timbres** (=sound qualities such as different instrument sounds) relate to create the overall effect of a piece of music. The four common **texture types** are monophonic, polyphonic, homophonic, and heterophonic.

Texture types**Monophonic
texture,
Unison**

Monophonic texture includes only a single melody line. If more than one musician plays the same melody together, this is called **playing in unison**.

**Polyphonic
texture**

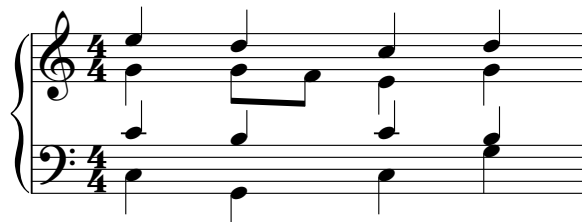
Polyphonic texture consists of two or more independent melody lines:

**Homophonic
texture**

Homophonic texture consist of a primary melody line with accompaniment. Various accompaniment types are possible, including **homorhythmic, blocked-chord,** and **arpeggiated** accompaniments (**Alberti bass** or **broken chord**).

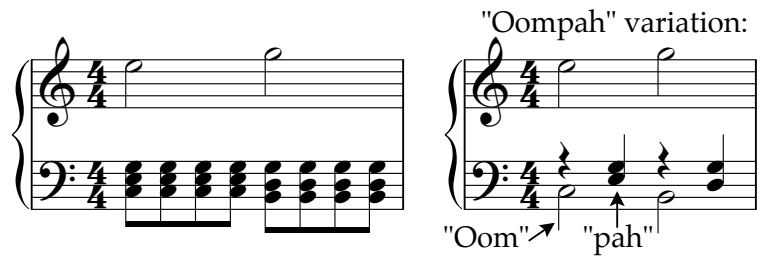
**Homophonic:
Homorhythmic
accompaniment**

Homorhythmic accompaniments (also called **chorale texture**) have the same rhythm as the melody line. Slight variations in rhythm are possible.



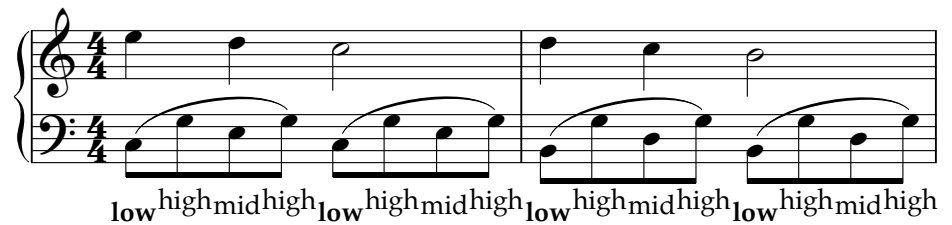
**Homophonic:
Blocked chord
accompaniment**

Blocked chord accompaniments state the notes of each chord simultaneously using a repeated rhythmic pattern. One variation of blocked chord homophonic texture is the **oompah accompaniment**.



**Homophonic:
Albert bass
accompaniment**

An **arpeggio** states the notes of a chord one after another; **arpeggiated accompaniments** state the notes of the harmony one at a time. One common type of arpeggiated accompaniment, **Alberti bass**, uses a **low-high-mid-high** pattern (common in music of the late 1700s):



**Homophonic:
Broken chord
accompaniment**

A second type of arpeggiated accompaniment, **broken chord style**, uses a low-to-high and/or high-to-low order for the notes:



**Heterophonic
texture**

Heterophonic textures consist of multiple performers playing or singing a single melody all at once, each adding their own subtle variations. This texture is common in some musics of India and Africa as well as some types of jazz.